



CPC CYBERFLASH

April, 27 2007

HONOR

RESPECT

COMMITMENT

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From the Director's Desk

2007 Promotion Boards for grades 02-06 are now complete. Nomination packages will be prepared once OPB debriefs to the Director, NOAA Corps are completed. Officer notification will take place once the Department clears the nomination packages. I would expect the latter to occur late May/early June.

Many thanks to all who have submitted ideas for a NOAA Corps slogan. To date, CPC has received over one hundred and thirty entries. It's not too late to submit...send your thoughts along to Director.CPC@noaa.gov.

CPC Deputy Director, Roger Mason, will assume duties as Acting CPC Director in my absence for the period April 29 – May 25.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Todd Stiles".

Captain Todd C. Stiles, NOAA
Director, Commissioned Personnel Center

Health Care Options (Reminder)

The Uniformed Services Family Health Plan (USFHP) is one of the TRICARE benefit options available to Defense Eligibility and Reporting System (DEERS) eligible active duty family members, retirees and retired or surviving family members. The USFHP contract provides the same coverage as the TRICARE Prime program. However, it provides some additional benefits at no extra cost. The USFHP is much easier to use when accessing healthcare appointments and referrals for specialty care. It also affords your family member(s) the opportunity to choose where they may go for health care. Enrollment is open year round, there is no waiting period for benefits and coverage begins the first day of the month.

Eligible dependents may receive services if they are within one of the six USFHP catchment areas:

1. Pacific Medical Centers serving the Puget Sound area of WA: 1-888-958-7347;
2. CHRISTUS Health serving southwest TX and southwest LA: 1-800-678-7347;
3. Johns Hopkins Medicine serving central MD, DC and parts of PA, VA and WV: 1-800-801-9322;
4. Saint Vincent Catholic Medical Centers serving, NY, NJ, eastern PA, southern CT: 1-800-241-4848;
5. Brighton Marine Health Center serving MA, Cape Cod, RI and northern CT: 1-800-818-8589;
6. Martin's Point Health Care serving ME, NH, northeastern NY: 1-888-241-4556.

For more information regarding this program(see www.TRICARE.mil website), click on TRICARE beneficiaries, then click on TRICARE plans, then click on USFHP, at the bottom you'll find a link explaining TRICARE's USFHP, or dial 1-800-748-7347 and you will be diverted to the closest call center.

Training Opportunity

A unique training opportunity exists for any officers and civilians (Federal employees) interested in serving on NOAA's Aviation Safety Board (ASB). Although the training agenda is centered around Federal aviation safety, you do not need to have a background in aviation to become a member of the ASB. The intent of the program is to build a diverse, well-qualified pool of candidates from across all the Line Offices to serve on the ASB and/or Risk Assessment Boards. The ASB will typically meet on a quarterly basis in/around the Silver Spring, MD area.

This year's annual Interagency Committee for Aviation Policy (ICAP) event is being conducted from 23-26 July in Orlando, FL. A detailed agenda can be viewed at : www.fedfleet.org/printversion/aviation.html - www.fedfleet.org/printversion/aviation.html. The training will be fully-funded by NOAA's Aviation Safety Office.

Approximately 5-7 slots are still available and the deadline for registering is April 30th. If you're interested in attending the training and becoming a member of the ASB, obtain supervisor approval prior to sending an e-mail to Jim Kelley at jim.kelley@noaa.gov.

Uniform Update (Reminder)

The summer uniform of the day for the NOAA Corps is as follows:

Washington, D.C. & Boulder, CO	April 30, 2007	Prescribed: Alternate:	Summer White Service Khaki
Seattle, WA	April 30, 2007	Prescribed: Alternate:	Service Khaki Summer White
Norfolk, VA	April 16, 2007	Prescribed: Alternate:	Service Khaki Summer White
Tampa, FL	Year Round	Prescribed: Alternate:	Flight Suits or Khaki Summer White

Please reference the memorandum from the Director, NOAA Corp dated April 10, 2007.

Official Passports (Reminder)

According to NOAA Travel Regulation 306-5.9, DOC security requirements dictate that all official passports be returned to the NOAA Travel Office for safekeeping upon completion of foreign travel. Frequent foreign travelers or those on foreign blanket travel authorizations may retain official passports in a locked safe in their offices. Official passports are the property of the Government, and therefore are not the personal property of the individual.

Official passports must never be kept at home. Officers assigned to ships are considered frequent travelers and shall deliver their official passport to the ships Executive Officer for safekeeping upon reporting. Officers assigned to aviation and field assignments that require frequent foreign travel are reminded of the requirement to keep official passports in a locked safe in their offices.

From the Travel Desk (Reminder)

PERMANENT CHANGE OF STATION (PCS)

Your PCS orders will be initiated once CPC has received an approved NOAA Form 56-26, January 2006 edition. This form should be sent to Neavalyn Touray, 301-713-7729 no later than 60 days prior to your reporting date. If your reporting date has changed, please notify LCDR John Caskey, Assignment Coordinator, 301-713-7748.

You will be notified by email that your PCS order is available in the travel section of your OPF online and the original PCS order will be mailed to you.

If you are moving your household goods and/or POV, a copy of your order will be forwarded to GSA, who is the contracted source for all NOAA Corps PCS moves. The point of contact is Betho A. Vogelsinger - 202-619-8937 and email: betho.vogelsinger@gsa.gov.

If you and/or your dependents are flying to the new duty station, please make arrangements with SATO travel. The contact number is 301-713-2407.

Please make sure you have your order endorsed (from the detached duty station and from the reporting duty station). You can Mail or fax a copy of the endorsed order to CPC. The fax number is 301-713-4140.

Here is information on how to prepare your voucher. Your entitlements are shown on your travel order.

Please use **DD Form 1351-2** to prepare your voucher (CD Form 370 will not be accepted).

- Complete Blocks 2-14.
- Complete Block 15 and include the date you departed your old duty station and the date you arrived at your new duty station.
- Complete Blocks 16 and 17 (if applicable).
- Complete Block 18 with any reimbursable expenses such as taxi fare, excess baggage charge, TLE*, tolls, etc.
- Commissioned Personnel calculates any claims for temporary lodging expense (TLE) and temporary lodging allowance (TLA). Lodging receipts must be submitted with voucher.

You must sign in Block 20a and the supervisor must sign in Block 20c.

Commissioned Personnel will complete summary of payment section for you. Voucher payments are direct deposited into the account on file with Headquarters, NOAA Finance Center. If you need to change that information, please complete a NOAA CAMS profile form and send with your voucher.

The DD Form 1351-2 and CAMS Profile form can be found at the following websites:

<http://www.esgr.org/contents/forms/DD1351-2TravelVoucher.pdf>

http://www.noaa.gov/cpc/txtfiles/CAMS_Profile_Form.doc

Submit your original completed voucher with any supporting documentation along with a copy of your endorsed orders to: Commissioned Personnel Center, 8403 Colesville Road, Suite 500, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910, ATTN: TRAVEL VOUCHER.

FAX COPIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Questions should be submitted via email to Neaval.Touray@noaa.gov

MEDICAL INFORMATION REGARDING PCS MOVES:

All Officers who will be assigned to a sea billet is required to have a PPD screening. This screening will be required annually until you are assigned to a shore billet. Questions should be submitted via email to Elizabeth.Hobson-Powell@noaa.gov.

On The Horizon

This section is designed to provide the NOAA Corps officers with some of the highlights of items under consideration that may have an impact on them. The items discussed may or may not be approved at a later date.

This section will be updated in the next CYBERFLASH.